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SRI JOHN ASIRVATHAM : May I know how many Government Transport buses were involved in these accidents?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : I do not have the exact figure. But it will be almost negligible.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Government be pleased to constitute an expert committee to go into the causes of these accidents and see what remedial measures could be adopted?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : Sir, it is after careful consideration and discussion with all the authorities concerned that the Government were compelled to take all the measures which I just now narrated here. I do not think any further measures could be taken. However, if the hon. Member has any suggestion to make, useful suggestion, Government will certainly welcome it and consider it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Questions are over.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—FELICITATIONS TO SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV, M.L.C., ON HER APPOINTMENT AS SHERIFF OF MADRAS.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is my pleasant privilege, with your permission, to felicitate one hon. Member of this House, the very active lady Member, Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav, on her appointment as the Sheriff of Madras for this year. (Cheers.) Sir, this House has had on a previous occasion to felicitate her. I do hope that hon. Members of this House would have an opportunity to see her in her Sheriff's costumes with sword in hand. p.m.

* DR. V. K. JOHN : Sir, may I associate myself with the expression of felicitations offered to Srimathi Mary Clubwala Jadhav on her appointment as Sheriff? This House is proud of her.

* SRI V. BHASHYAM AYYANGAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I join in the congratulations which the Hon. the Leader of the House has been good enough to offer to Srimathi Mary Clubwala Jadhav on her appointment as the Sheriff of Madras. It is a rare honour and, she being the first woman to be appointed to this high office in this State, we are all very glad that the Government have been pleased to show this consideration to her. On behalf of the voluntary social workers of this State, I have very great pleasure in offering my congratulations as well as the congratulations of all social workers to her on the high honour that has been conferred on her. I hope that this is only a preliminary to other honours still to come to her.

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY : May I add one word, Sir? It gives me great pleasure to associate myself with the views expressed by the Hon. the Leader of the House and to congratulate

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Mrs. Clubwala on the high office conferred on her. It shows that the Government of Madras do not make any distinction between men and women in regard at least to the appointment of Sheriff. I know that she would be discharging her duties in the most honourable fashion, bringing credit to herself as well as to the sex which she has the honour to represent in this House and elsewhere in her various capacities. I have been watching her work as a social worker, and I myself have been connected with a society which carries on social work and I have had to correspond with her. I feel completely satisfied and gratified that she has done very honourable and meritorious work. And in recognition of that, she has been chosen as the "Sherifa"—I do not know whether it is English or Greek, but I use the word as appropriate. I congratulate a co-Member on the high honour that has been conferred upon her. I hope very soon other Members of her sex in this House would emulate her example and rise to the heights to which she has risen.

* SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I feel it my pleasant duty to congratulate Srimathi Clubwala Jadhav—it is highly gratifying to do that—that our Government have appointed a woman to the office of Sheriff which, I think, is for the first time in the history of our country. (Mr. Chairman : Not in the country!) (A voice : There are other women in other States.) Any way, Sir, we are grateful to our Government for appointing Srimathi Clubwala Jadhav to this distinguished office. This is particularly to be appreciated for all the service that she has done to the poor and the down-trodden in various walks of life and in her various capacities. It shows clearly that the representations of the people on her behalf were great in view of her meritorious work. I, on behalf of my sex and my colleagues, congratulate her on this high honour and wish her all success in her new sphere of work.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Sir, the Hon. the Leader of the House said that we should have seen our new Sheriff in her robes. As we did not attend the swearing-in ceremony, we have not had that pleasure. I hope we will have an occasion and that in this House to see her in her robes. I also join in the expression of congratulations to her.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I associate myself very sincerely with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. I have known Mrs. Clubwala Jadhav for over a quarter of a century and I have seen the beginning of her social work, from where she has spread herself out, doing good not only to the City, not only to the State, but to the whole of India. Her name is a household word wherever social work is concerned, whether it is Madras, Gwalior, Baroda, Bombay or Delhi. Everywhere she is highly esteemed by all people. I feel this is only a very small measure of return for all the good work that she has done during the last so many years. As the

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hon. Member Sri Purushotham said, I hope we would have the pleasure of seeing her in her uniform. This morning in her robes she looked very nice indeed. (Laughter.) I hope she will one day come to the House in her uniform.

* SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV : Mr. Chairman, Hon. the Leader of the House and hon. Members, I am indeed overwhelmed and honoured by the many kind words of congratulation expressed about me on this honour of being the first woman Sheriff in the City of Madras. I may mention, Mr. Chairman, that Bombay had the honour of having a woman Sheriff, some eight or nine years ago. And also there is a woman Sheriff sworn in today in Bombay and she is, too, another social worker. I am indeed very proud that for the first time our Government—which, as I said, in another platform is very conservative—have chosen a woman to this high office. This is not an honour done to me alone but to my sex. So, I am very proud of this particular honour and I hope that I shall be able to fulfil this duty of mine as best as I can, and I shall try to show that women can perform all the duties that may come their way in their country (interruption) in a better way of course, than men.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the Hon. the Leader of the House and other hon. Members and I am grateful for the great confidence reposed in me by our Government. I thank our Chief Minister, the Governor and the Hon. Ministers for the selection. I thank you all for your kind words and good wishes. I shall try to come in my uniform, if you, Sir, order me to do so.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But I cannot order a Sheriff ! Can I?

III.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. CHAIRMAN *RE* ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS TO THE SENATE OF THE ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to announce to the House that 3–30
Srimathi S. Manjubhashini and Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar, p.m.
M.L.Cs., are the only two candidates duly nominated for election to the Senate of the Annamalai University. As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, two, I hereby declare them duly elected to the Senate of the Annamalai University.

IV.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1957-58—*cont.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar will now continue his speech on the Budget.

* SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : மன்றத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நேற்றையதினம் கல்வியைப்பற்றிப் பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தேன். அதில் முக்கியமான ஒரு கட்டம் முதியோர் கல்வியைப்பற்றியது. அதைப்பற்றி இந்த சபையில் முன்பு நான் ஒரு தீர்மானம் கொண்டுவந்தேன். முதியோர் கல்வியை நமது அரசியலார் கொஞ்சம் ஊக்கத்துடன் பரப்புவார்களேயானால், நம் நாடும் உயர்வடையும். மக்களுடைய அறியாமையும் போகும்.